



### **Outline of Key Table Tennis Rules:**

1. A match consists of games. In this case the best of 5 games is a match. All games are to 21 points (win by 2). First player to win 3 games (best of 5) wins that match.
2. Service order is decided by a coin toss.
3. During regular season players have 30 minute to complete their match. If a match goes over the 30 minute period then the player with the best score will be announced the winner. If scores are tied then the match will go into sudden death (must win by 2).
  - a. In playoffs there is no time limit.
4. Games will start on time and players will have a 2 minute warm-up period to start with. If players are 10 minutes late then they will automatically forfeit that game.
5. Service rules:
  - b. The server first stands with the ball held on the open palm of the hand not carrying the racket, called the freehand, and tosses the ball directly upward without spin, at least 16 centimeters (approximately 6 inches) high.
  - c. The server has 5 serves.
  - d. The server can server either side of the court to the returner.
  - e. The ball must remain behind the endline and above the upper surface of the table, known as the playing surface, at all times during the service. The server cannot use his body or clothing to obstruct sight of the ball.
6. During the Round-Robin phase players will receive the following points for a win, loss, or forfeit:
  - f. Win = 2 points.
  - g. Loss = 0 points.
  - h. Forfeit = -1 points.
    - i. Points will determine seeding's for the knockout phase. Note: if points are tied, the amount of games won and loss will determine a seeding.
7. Players may not touch the playing surface during play. If contact is made then the point is automatically over.
8. The Program Coordinator has the right to change rules during the season. If the league is changed all players will receive an updated copy of the rules.
9. **WAIVER OF LIABILITY** -- the City assumes no liability for injury or damages arising from the results of participation in the adult table tennis league. We strongly urge that each individual in the league have insurance to cover each individual appearing in every game and travel to and from each league game or that each player be covered by personal health insurance. At time of registration, each player signed a waiver to participate in the league.
10. Players are encouraged to contact the Program Coordinator, Duncan Mullis, with any feedback or question at: [dmullis@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:dmullis@rockvillemd.gov), or 240-314-8652.